

 Saskatoon Nutana Rotary Club 						
Sept. 23, 2025						
October 2025 Theme: Economic and Community Development				Program Chair: Grant Devine		
Date	Rotana Editor	Greeter	Cheer Captain	Speaker/Topic	Intro	Club Thanks
Oct, 07	Norm Woodcock	Bob MacGillivray	Candace Odishaw	Brynn Campbell		Walt Pawlovich

ROTARY PEACE PLAZA CEREMONY

Past President Betty Ann Arscott stood in for Kim Horan today on a beautiful and sunny fall day. Today is the International Day of Peace.

Betty Ann welcomed the principal, Kris Hanson and students from St. Anne School, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Board Chair, Diane Boyko, Meewasin Valley Authority Manager of Marketing, Emily Sweeney, this year's brick sponsors, Dorothy Hudson and Bill Christensen and all Rotarians and guests.

Student emcees Summer Wiens, Hadley Sinclair and Sofia Lazic shared the role of emcee. They announced the Land Acknowledgement of Treaty 6 Territory and followed with a prayer.

Stan Garchinski and Jim Gillis led everyone in "O'Canada" and "The Four Way Test" song.

Kris Hanson, the principal of St. Anne's Inquiry School offered greetings from the school. He spoke about his students studying the Nobel Peace Prize 2023 winner, Narges Mohammadi and the inspiring example she sets for women around the world. Narges stood up to give a voice to the voiceless. She believed in human rights for not just women but all individuals.

GSCS Chair, Diane Boyko gave greetings from the School board and spoke about the important role of Meewasin Valley Authority as a partner with GSCS and Rotary. She thanked MVA for their support. Involving students early builds community and lifelong citizens. Also, she thanked the Rotary Club of Saskatoon Nutana for organizing this event and supporting education in Saskatoon. Diane proudly mentioned the new St. Francis Cree Bilingual School has opened and our club's support is very appreciated.

Dorothy Hudson explained a brief history about the Rotary Peace Plaza. It was a five club project built in 1998. Nobel Peace Prizes have been awarded since 1901 and today we have bricks dedicated

to Mother Theresa, Desmond Tutu, Martin Luther King Jr. and many others. Each brick is a lasting reminder to each honouree and their contributions to peace.



Dorothy chose to dedicate a brick this year for Narges Mohammadi because she is fighting for women's rights in Iran. As a result of her struggles she has been imprisoned. Here in Canada, women enjoy a Charter of Rights and Freedoms. In Iran, the government silences anyone who voices opposition and many women experience violence and imprisonment for their actions. Narges was one sent to prison and documented the conditions in her book "White Torture". Her work culminated in the Nobel Prize for her efforts to end the oppression of women in Iran.





Zoria Gabruch, a student at St. Anne School continued Narges life story. She was born in Iran in 1972. After earning a physics degree she found work as a journalist. In May 2016, she was sentenced to 16 years in prison for her human rights work. She remained in prison while her husband, fellow journalist Taghi Rahmani, moved to France in 2012.

Narges joined the DHRC, Defenders of Human Rights Center advocating for human rights and political prisoners. Narges worked to expose the inhumane treatment of prisoners and campaigned against the death penalty. Her book “White Torture”, focused on the injustices in Iranian prisons, her commitment to human rights and led to being awarded the 2023 Nobel Peace Prize while in prison. Narges resilience and determination have made her a symbol of resistance against the Iranian regime.



Betty Ann Arscott, Past President of Nutana

Rotary thanked everyone for attending and mentioned that even though he could not attend today, Rotarian Asit Sarkar worked many hours to organize this event.

Betty Ann thanked Dorothy and Bill for providing the luncheon for today. She echoed Emily Sweeney's, (MVA) comment that awareness leads to transformation, which leads to action.

Let us all promote peace and goodwill throughout the world.

Thanks to **LORNE BRAITHWAITE** for providing the photographs and text.

The next meeting at Sports on Tap is on October 07th, 2025.

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President Elect-TBA

Secretary – Jack Scott

Treasurer – Bob MacGillivray

Board members

Club Administration- Candace Odishaw

Membership Betty Ann Arscott and Karol Komar

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Service – Dorothy Hudson

Rotary Foundation- Asit Sarkar

Youth – Candace Odishaw, Hannah Enti-Brown

Image Committee/Communication– Candace Odishaw

Rotary International

RI President – Francesco Arezzo

District Governor – Wayne Jacobsen

District Leadership Team – Ruth Merritt

Contact Information

Rotary Club of Saskatoon Nutana

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Founded May 31, 1961

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Club website: www.rotarynutana.org

Club Facebook Link: [\(11\) Saskatoon Nutana Rotary Club | Facebook](#)

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Links

District 5550 [http://www.clubrunner.ca/portal/home.aspx? did=5550](http://www.clubrunner.ca/portal/home.aspx?did=5550)

Rotary International www.rotary.org